

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figure 6 has been amended to clarify the labeling of apertures (56, 57, and 58) in the upper puck guide member 68, the lower puck guide member 72 and the puck mount plate 50. A replacement sheet for Figure 6 is enclosed herewith.

REMARKS

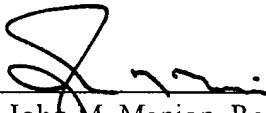
1. Applicants affirm the election of claims 1-6 and the withdrawal of claims 7-15.
2. Applicants appreciate Examiner's reminder to change inventorship if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Since no claims have yet been cancelled, the inventorship remains unchanged as a result of the election. At such time that claims are cancelled, Applicants will alter inventorship, if required.
3. Examiner provisionally rejected claims 1-6 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-18 of copending Application No. 11/527,293. Applicants note the provisional rejection and will address such rejection at a time when there exists allowable subject matter on which a terminal disclaimer may be based.
4. Applicants amended claim 1 to refer to "said puck mechanism" as recited in the claim, instead of "said puck member." For purposes of this amendment, Applicants do not make a distinction between "mechanism" and "member," but rather only makes the amendment so that the final element of claim 1 has proper antecedent basis in the claim.
5. Examiner rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by PCT International Publication No. WO88/01247 to Aguero. Applicants respectfully disagree with Examiner's analysis.
 - a. Claim 1: While not conceding that Aguero includes other aspects of claim 1, Applicants specifically disagree with Examiner's statement that Aguero includes "means for transporting said peripheral surface of said elongate article toward said opening of said puck member." Examiner directed Applicants' attention to Aguero reference numeral 59 and figures 1 and 10. Applicants first respectfully point out that reference numeral 59 does not appear in Aguero Figure 1, and Examiner does not otherwise specify such means as present in Figure 1. While a cable engaging member 59 does appear in Aguero Figure 10, when the cable 50 is engaged thereby, "the cable 50 is gripped between the members 59 and the fixed mounting blocks [55]." (Aguero, pg. 7, lines 19-27.) Therefore, because there is no change in the relative distance between (i) the peripheral surface of the cable, and (ii) the "radial slot 53 through which the cable 50 may be introduced into the passage 39," (Aguero, pg. 5, lines 17-18), Aguero does not provide a "means for transporting said

peripheral surface of said elongate article toward said opening of said puck member,” as required by Applicants’ claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the stated rejection.

- b. Claims 2 and 3 depend from allowable claim 1. Thus, claims 2 and 3 are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the stated rejection.
 - c. Claim 4: Claim 4 is distinguishable over Aguero. Aguero does not disclose “at least one gripper for grasping and moving said elongate article.” While Aguero discloses a cable engaging member 59, when the cable 50 is engaged thereby, “the cable 50 is gripped between the members 59 and the fixed mounting blocks [55].” (Aguero, pg. 7, lines 19-27.) While the cable 50 is grasped by the member 59, the cable is never moved by the member 59, but is rather held in a stationary position. Since the cable is never moved, Aguero does not disclose a “grripper for grasping and moving said elongate article” as required by claim 4; therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the stated rejection.
6. Examiner rejected claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aguero in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,350,070 to Tasma.
- a. Claim 5: Claim 5 is distinguishable over Aguero in view of Tasma. Aguero does not disclose “a gripper assembly for grasping and moving said elongate article.” While Aguero discloses a cable engaging member 59, when the cable 50 is engaged thereby, “the cable 50 is gripped between the members 59 and the fixed mounting blocks [55].” (Aguero, pg. 7, lines 19-27.) While the cable 50 is grasped by the member 59, the cable is never moved by the member 59, but is rather held in a stationary position. Since the cable is never moved, Aguero does not disclose a “grripper for grasping and moving said elongate article” as required by claim 4; therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the stated rejection.
 - b. Claim 6 depends from allowable claim 5. Thus, claim 5 is allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 5. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the stated rejection.
7. Applicants amended Figure 6 to clarify the labeling of apertures (56, 57, and 58) in the upper puck guide member 68, the lower puck guide member 72 and the puck mount plate 50. A

replacement sheet for Figure 6 accompanies this Amendment A. The amendment to Figure 6 and associated paragraphs in the specification are intended to clarify the description of the embodiment, which was entirely disclosed in the original application. This amendment does not add new matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

By 
John M. Manion, Reg. No. 38,957

RYAN KROMHOLZ & MANION, S.C.
Post Office Box 26618
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226
(262) 783 - 1300
JMM/GKG/jaw
HellermannTyton/ALA100-FOR/070327 Amt. A
27 March 2007
Customer No.: 26308

Enclosures: Amendment Transmittal Letter
 Replacement Drawing Sheet
 Return Postcard